

**LEXDEN AND WINSTREE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

Medical Officer of Health, 1937

COLCHESTER :
THE ESSEX TELEGRAPH, LTD.

Lexden and Winstree Rural District Council, 1937.

Public Health and Building Plans Committee—

Chairman : Rev. F. E. CRATE.

Vice-Chairman : Capt. W. H. CODNER, A.M.I.Mech.E.

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Staff of the Public Health Department—

Medical Officer of Health :

W. H. ALDERTON, M.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector :

ALBERT HURD, M.R.S.I.

Assistant Sanitary Inspectors :

Senior : K. H. WHARTON, M.S.I.A.

Junior : I. L. FISHER.

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Rebow Chambers, Sir Isaac's Walk, Colchester.

17th May, 1938.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE LEXDEN
AND WINSTREE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report on the Health and Vital Statistics of the District for the year 1937.

The report is arranged in accordance with instructions contained in the Ministry of Health Circular No. 1650 dated 4th October, 1937.

The year has seen, for practical purposes, the completion of water schemes for the whole of the District, and nearly every Parish is now supplied with water from the main.

The incidence of infectious disease has been less, and the birth rate and death rate compare very favourably with previous years. A death rate of 12·7 per 1000 corrected to 9·8 per 1000 by the comparability figure is particularly low.

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking members of the Council for their support and to place on record my appreciation of the co-operation and loyalty of my staff.

I have the honour to be,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. H. ALBERTON.

Lexden and Winstree Rural District Council.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

AREA—66,152 acres (approximately).

REGISTRAR - GENERAL'S ESTIMATE OF RESIDENT
POPULATION, 1937—19,840.

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (end of 1937) according
to Rate Books—6,650.

RATEABLE VALUE—£98,765.

SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE—£387.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The district maintains its agricultural character, approximately one-third of occupied males are employed in this industry. The Council's water schemes provided extra employment during the year and construction of works by the South Essex Waterworks Company also continued to provide extra work for males in this district. The Unemployment Exchange is unable to give exact figures for the District but I understand unemployment has not been marked.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

				Total	M.	F.	Birth Rate per	
Live Births	{	Legitimate	..	287	143	144	1,000 of estimated resident population =15·2	
		Illegitimate	..	15	10	5		
Stillbirths	{	Legitimate	..	7	7	—	Rate per 1,000 total births, 22·6	
		Illegitimate	..	—	—	—		
Deaths		253	131	122	Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population =12·7

Adjusted Death Rate for comparison 9·8 per 1,000
Comparability figure 766

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

			Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total births
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
Other Puerperal causes	—	—

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	..	..	29·8
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	31·3
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	—

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	37
„ Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	—
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	—
„ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	..	..	..	1

Deaths in various age groups (local statistics) :—

Age.				No. of Deaths.
0—1 year	..	..	..	9
1—2 years	..	..	..	5
2—5 years	..	..	..	4
5—15 years	..	..	..	8
15—25 years	..	..	..	4
25—35 years	..	..	..	7
35—45 years	..	..	..	6
45—55 years	..	..	..	12
55—65 years	..	..	..	33
65—75 years	..	..	..	64
75 and upwards	..	..	..	94

Total 246

<i>Causes of Death.</i>							M.	F.
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	0
Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	4
Other Tubercular Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2
Cancer, Malignant Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	18
Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	9
Heart Disease	..	..	..	..	..	..	47	33
Other Circulatory Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	7
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	5
Pneumonia (all forms)	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	6
Other Respiratory Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3
Peptic Ulcer	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
Other Digestive Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	6
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth, etc.							2	3
Senility	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	3
Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
Other Violence	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	1
Other Defined Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	12
Other Liver Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	1
Diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	1
Appendicitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Syphilis	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	0

Infant Mortality Table.

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	0-1 wks.	1-2 wks.	2-3 wks.	3-4 wks.	Total under 1 mth.	1-3 mths.	3-6 mths.	6-9 mths.	9-12 mths.	Total under 12mths.
Cerebral injury.	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Pneumonia	.. 0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Congenital										
Syphilis	.. 0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Prematurity	.. 3	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3
Asphyxia	.. 1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Gastro Enteritis	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Totals	5	0	0	0	5	1	3	0	0	9

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

The Medical Officer of Health, W. H. Alderton, M.C., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. He is also Medical Officer of Health to neighbouring Urban Districts and Assistant Medical Officer to the County Council.

The Sanitary Inspector, A. Hurd, M.R.S.I. He is also the qualified Food Inspector for the District Council and devotes his whole time to their service.

The Senior Assistant Inspector, K. H. Wharton, M.S.I.A. He devotes his whole time to the service of the Council.

The Junior Assistant Inspector, I. L. Fisher (appointed July, 1937). He is employed chiefly with the administration of the Council's Town Planning Scheme.

The Clerk, O. S. Dalton (appointed October, 1937), who devotes part of his time to the Medical Officer and part to the Sanitary Inspector.

Office Boy, J. H. Perkins (appointed August, 1937).

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Counties Laboratory, Queen Victoria Street, London, is available for submitting specimens from this District. A comprehensive list of examinations, free of cost, available has been drawn up by the Essex County Council and circulated. This laboratory is now available for the examination of Public Water Supplies in the district, the cost of this service being borne by the County Council.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

There are a sufficient number of Ambulances in this area for present needs. Colchester Borough Ambulances are available, and the District Council has made itself responsible for the recovery of payment in the case of accidents in other than necessitous cases.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

There has been no change in the nursing services in the district.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The following additions have been made to the list of Clinics and Treatment Centres as set out in the Annual Report for 1935.

<i>Clinic.</i>	<i>Address.</i>	<i>Accommodation.</i>	<i>By whom provided.</i>
Women's Welfare	Health Dept., Trinity Street, Colchester.	Waiting Room, Consulting Room & Dressing Room.	Essex County Council.
Ophthalmic	Health Dept., Trinity Street, Colchester.	Waiting Room, Consulting Room & Dark Room.	Essex County Council.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

ABBERTON AND DISTRICT WATER SUPPLY.

This supply has been maintained during the year, and the following analysis shows it to be pure and wholesome :

Chemical Results in Parts per 100,000.

Appearance—Clear and bright. Colour—Normal. Odour—None
Reaction pH.—On the alkaline side of neutrality—8.2. Free
Carbonic Acid—None.

Electric Conductivity at 20° C.—2240

Total Solids, 180° C.—150

Chlorine in Chlorides—65.0 107.0 Sodium Chloride

Nitrogen in Nitrates—Nil. Nitrites—Absent.

Hardness: Permanent—0.0

Temporary—11.5 Alkalinity as CaCO₃—34.5

Total 11.5

Metals—Absent

Free Ammonia—0.1080

Albuminoid Ammonia—0.0008

Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80° F.—0.030

Bacteriological Results.

No. of Bacteria per c.c. or ml.—

On Agar in 3 days at 20° C.—

1 day at 37° C.—9

2 days at 37° C.—42

The Bacillus Coli—Present in — Absent in 50 c.c.

Bacillus Welchii—Present in — Absent in —

(B. Enteritidis Sporogenes.)

There have been no extensions made to this supply during the year.

TIPTREE AND DISTRICT WATER SUPPLY.

This supply has been maintained during the year and analysis shows it to be pure and wholesome. Many complaints were received during the year with regard to the furring up of utensils in which this water had been heated. The deposit from one of these articles was submitted for examination at the Counties Laboratories and gave the following result :—

Calcium Carbonate	80°%
Magnesium Hydrate	11°%
Aluminium Hydrate	1·8°%
Iron Oxides	Traces
Copper and Zinc	Traces
Water of Hydration, etc.	7·2°%

The Analyst estimated that the scale was soft and would be deposited at the rate of 1½lbs of dry powder per 1,000 gallons of water. He stated that Sodium Bi-Carbonate was present in the Inworth Borehole water, and the loose flocculent deposit would be accentuated by the presence of traces of Aluminium taken up from vessel containers used in heating it. He stated that in order to completely prevent the corrosive action of these Sodium Bi-Carbonate waters on a large scale, a complicated method of treatment is necessary and such a plant would be costly, occupying considerable space, need daily attention, and there would be resultant Chalk Sludge to be disposed of.

The matter is still under consideration.

Chemical Results in Parts per 100,000.

Appearance—Clear and Bright. Colour—Normal. Odour—None.

Reaction pH.—Neutral 7·4. Free Carbonic Acid—None.

Electric Conductivity at 20° C.—965

Total Solids, 180° C.—64·0

Chlorine in Chlorides—14·8

Nitrogen in Nitrates—Nil. Nitrites—Absent.

Hardness: Permanent—0·0

Temporary—11·0—Total 11·0

Metals—Absent

Free Ammonia—0·0230

Albuminoid Ammonia—0·0032

Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80° F.—0·020

Bacteriological Results.

No. of Bacteria per c.c. or ml.

On Agar in 3 days at 20° C.—

1 day at 37° C.—

2 days at 37° C.—

The Bacillus Coli—Present in — Absent in 50 c.c.

Bacillus Welchii—Present in — Absent in —

(B. Enteritidis Sp. rogenes).

The following extensions were approved during the year :

From New Barn Hall Cottages, Tiptree, a distance of 80 yards.

To existing main in Grove Road for a distance of 545 yards.

The Council also took over the 4in. main in Grange Road, Tiptree, a distance of 520 yards, laid by Messrs. Beaumont, to supply Windmill Hill Estate.

Extension at Inworth Endway, a distance of 320 yards.

The shallow Public Well at Inworth Endway was condemned in September for use for drinking and household purposes.

COLNE AND STOUR VALLEY WATER SUPPLY.

The house for the Pumping Attendant has now been erected on the site of the Pumping Station, and the Softening Plant was fixed at this Station in January.

The supply from this source was turned on in July to the parishes of Stanway, Copford, Marks Tey, Little Tey and parts of Great Tey and Aldham.

Considerable difficulty has been experienced due to sections of main being laid in a dirty condition on this supply, and it has necessitated frequent flushing to clear them. From experience gained it would appear that months must elapse before all the deposit in the mains is removed and a continuous clear supply obtained.

The following analysis shows that the supply is pure and wholesome :—

Chemical Results in Parts per 100,000.

Appearance—Faint opalescence with slight film deposit of mineral particles.

Colour—Normal. Odour—None.

Reaction pH.—Neutral 7.6. Free Carbonic Acid 1.4.

Electric Conductivity at 20° C. 975.

Total Solids 180° C. 65.0.

Chlorine in Chlorides 14.8.

Nitrogen in Nitrates Nil. Nitrites absent.

Hardness: Permanent—0.0

Temporary—12.5—Total 12.5.

Metals: Iron 0.025. In solution: Absent.

Free Ammonia—0.0044

Albuminoid Ammonia—0.0004

Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80° F.—0.010

Bacteriological Results.

No. of Bacteria per c.c. or ml.:

On Agar in 3 days at 20° C. .. 0

1 day at 37° C. .. 1

2 days at 37° C. .. 17

The Bacillus Coli— Present in —

Absent in 50 c.c.

Bacillus Welchii— Present in —

Absent in —

(B. Enteritidis Sporogenes)

The following extensions were approved during the year:—

At Boxted, down Birnt Dick Hill to supply two farms and seven houses, a distance of 690 yards.

At West Bergholt towards Colchester Borough Boundary, a distance of 530 yards.

To Place Farm via Fletchers Farm, Fordham, a distance of 1,250 yards.

At West Bergholt to The Crescent, a distance of 140 yards.

Brick Street, Fordham Heath, a distance of 100 yards.

At Great Horkesley to The Nurseries, a distance of 820 yards.

At Great Horkesley to Horkesley Hall, a distance of 170 yards.

At Great Horkesley to Crabbes Farm, a distance of 34 yards.

At Great Tey to Gulls Farm, a distance of 2,000 yards.

To Broomfields Farm, Boxted, a distance of 970 yards.

Villa Road, Stanway, a distance of 240 yards.

Church Lane, Stanway, a distance of 600 yards.

School Road, Great Horkesley, a distance of 330 yards.

To Old House, Great Horkesley, a distance of 470 yards.

To The Crescent, Great Horkesley, a distance of 180 yards.

Hall Road to Highfields, West Bergholt, a distance of 2,060 yards.

EAST DONYLAND WATER SUPPLY.

The Public Supply at Rowhedge has been maintained, and the water has been analysed during the year and found to be satisfactory.

In April the Committee recommended the connection of this supply to the main of the Colchester Corporation.

Chemical Results in Parts per 100,000.

Appearance—Clear and Bright. Colour—Normal. Odour—None.

Reaction pH.—Neutral 7·7 Free Carbonic Acid—None.

Electric Conductivity at 20° C.—1735

Total Solids, 180°C—115·5

Chlorine in Chlorides—37·2

Nitrogen in Nitrates—Nil Nitrites—Absent

Hardness : Permanent 0·0

Temporary 11·0—Total 11·0

Metals : Iron—0·005

Free Ammonia—0·0440

Albuminoid Ammonia—0·0040

Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80° F.—0·045

Bacteriological Results.

No. of Bacteria per c.c. or ml. :

On Agar in 3 days at 20° C. .. 0

1 day at 37° C. .. 9

2 days at 37° C. .. 17

The Bacillus Coli— Present in — Absent in 50 c.c.

Bacillus Welchii— Present in — Absent in —

(B. Enteritidis Sporogenes).

During the year the following extension was approved :—
To Rowhedge Sand and Ballast Company's Cottages, a distance of 40 yards.

STANWAY WATER SUPPLY.

The supply from the Stanway borehole was discontinued in January and the Parish was supplied from Tiptree.

The following table sets out the various samples taken and the results of analyses of waters in the various Parishes ; it includes both simple Chemical, Bacteriological and also complete analyses. :—

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Satisfactory.</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory.</i>	<i>Suspicious.</i>
Aldham	4	1	3	—
Bergholt, West	5	2	3	—
Birch.....	4	2	2	—
Boxted	3	1	2	—
Chappel	2	1	1	—
Dedham	2	—	2	—
Donyland, East	1	1	—	—
Easthorpe	1	—	1	—
Fingringhoe.....	2	—	2	—
Fordham	3	2	1	—
Horkesley, Little.....	1	1	—	—
Langham	6	4	2	—
Layer-de-la-Haye	2	2	—	—
Layer Marney	1	1	—	—
Mount Bures	1	1	—	—
Stanway	6	5	1	—
Tey, Great	1	—	1	—
Tey, Marks	1	1	—	—
Tiptree	8	2	6	—
Wormingford	1	1	—	—
	—	—	—	—
Totals	55	28	27	-
	—	—	—	—

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

STANWAY SEWERAGE SCHEME.

This scheme has not been proceeded with at the present time, but plans have been made for the future, and arrangement has been made with the Colchester Town Council for the construction of a sewer near the Stanway border of a greater size and depth than they would have originally constructed, for the purpose of dealing with Stanway Sewage at a future date.

DEDHAM SEWERAGE WORKS.

During the year the Council approved of the provision of a new Storm Water Overflow to Dedham Sewage Works.

EAST DONYLAND SEWERAGE SCHEME

Full consideration was given to the proposal to sewer the Parish of East Donyland and a public enquiry was held at Rowledge by an Inspector of the Ministry of Health in June.

Approval was given to the scheme and the exact method of dealing with it was considered. Of the two plans the one to construct a Sewage Works in the Parish of East Donyland found less favour than the one to drain into the existing sewer of the Colchester Corporation near this Council's boundary.

It is hoped that during the coming year work will be well in progress.

The effluents of the existing Sewerage Schemes in the District are examined from time to time by the Counties Laboratories. Steps are at the present time being taken to improve the effluent of the works at Dedham, which has not been satisfactory lately.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

No definite information is available regarding the actual number of closets of the various types in use.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No action was necessary to check the pollution of rivers and streams during the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Scavenging is now being carried out in the following parishes :— East Donyland, Fordham, Stanway, Tiptree, Dedham, Copford, Layer-de-la-Haye, Marks Tey, Birch and Aldham.

SHOPS.

No action was taken under the Shops Act, 1934, during the year.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action was required for the abatement of nuisance arising from smoke.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no swimming baths in the district open to the public.

SCHOOLS.

With the exception of Boxted C.E. School, the sanitation of which is being improved, the sanitary condition of elementary schools in the district is satisfactory. All, with the exception of two at Dedham, are on the conservancy system.

Aldham School was connected to the Council's main during the year, making a total of 13 now so connected.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No house in the district was found to be infested with bed bugs during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

12th February, 1938.

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE LEXDEN AND WINSTREE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my report of work carried out during the year ending 31st December, 1937, as follows:—

INSPECTIONS.

Premises Inspected—Public Health Acts	..	..	1275	
Housing Act, 1936	..	..	240	
Housing Act, 1936 (Overcrowding)	..	..	145	
			—	1960
Work in progress and property under notice (visits thereto)	..	..	..	1994
Slaughter Houses inspected	..	..	..	511
Butchers' Shops and Food Stores inspected	..	..	..	397
Ice Cream Stores inspected	..	..	..	20
Dairies and Cowsheds (Number of registered premises inspected)	..	..	..	768
Bakehouses and Workshops inspected	..	..	..	63
Appointments and Interviews with Property Owners, etc.	..	..	..	309
Number of Complaints received	..	..	..	77
Samples of Water taken for analysis	..	..	..	55
Samples of Milk taken for bacteriological examination	..	..	..	18

RESULT OF ABOVE INSPECTIONS AND ACTION TAKEN.

Informal Notices served	..	..	..	..	821
Statutory Notices served—					
Public Health Acts, 1875 and 1936	..	..	..	7	
Housing Act, 1936	..	..	..	7	
				—	14
Statutory Notices complied with —					
Public Health Act, 1875 and 1936	..	..	..	4	
Housing Act, 1936	..	..	..	5	
				—	9
Houses disinfected	..	..	..	..	42
Number of houses inspected considered unfit for human habitation					71
„ „ Representations made with a view to making Demolition Orders	..	..	..	..	31
„ „ Demolition Orders made under Sect. 11, Housing Act, 1936	..	..	..	..	20
„ „ Houses demolished by owners following Demolition Orders	..	..	..	..	12
„ „ Houses demolished by Owners voluntarily	..	..	..	..	5
„ „ Closing Orders made under Section 20, Housing Act, 1930	..	..	..	..	0
„ „ Houses in respect of which Owners have undertaken not to use for human habitation, Section 19, Housing Act, 1930	..	..	..	..	6

FOOD INSPECTION.

I give below particulars of carcasses inspected:—

	Cattle excluding			Sheep and	
	Cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	490	1	16	1210	1268
Number inspected	416	1	11	661	1002

The weight of unsound meat condemned during the year, exclusive of offal, was 2296 lbs.

CARCASSES AND ORGANS CONDEMNED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
All diseases except Tuberculosis—					
Whole carcasses con- demned	0	0	1	3	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	20	0	0	5	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis ..	1.807	0	0.09	1.21	.39
Tuberculosis only—					
Whole carcasses con- demned	0	0	0	0	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	18	1	0	9	70
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis	1.32	100	0	0	7.38

Particulars of the carcasses and organs condemned are given below :

Carcasses of Pigs (Tuberculosis)	4
Parts of Pig Carcasses (Heads and Tongues, etc.) (Tuberculosis) ..	34
Parts of Pigs Carcasses (Bruising, etc.)	2
Carcasses of Calves (Navel and Joint Ill)	1
Parts of Carcasses of Oxen (Localized Tuberculosis)	8
Parts of Carcasses of Oxen (Bruised condition)	1
Parts of Carcasses of Oxen (Heads and Tongues) (Actinomycosis) ..	1
Carcasses of Sheep (Dropsical condition)	3

ORGANS.

Beasts' Livers (Abscesses)	9
Beasts' Livers (Tuberculosis)	3
Beasts' Livers (Distomatosis)	9
Beasts' Livers (Cavernous Angioma)	1
Beasts' Mesenteries (Tuberculosis)	8
Pigs' Livers (Cirrhosis)	4
Pigs' Livers (Tuberculosis)	3
Sets of Lungs (Tuberculosis, etc.)	19
Pigs' Mesenteries (Tuberculosis)	38
Sheeps' Livers (Parasitic)	5

DESCRIPTION OF WORK EXECUTED.

DAMPNESS.

Roofs Repaired (Number of Houses)	75
Damp Courses inserted (Number of Houses)	11
Damp Floors taken up and relaid (Number of Houses)	58
External Walls cement rendered or otherwise treated (Number of Houses)	53
Cottages provided with eaves spouting	18
Eaves spouting repaired or renewed	50
Sub soil drainage provided	2

DRAINAGE.

Houses without drains drained to Public Sewer	1
Houses with Cesspool drainage redrained to Public Sewer ..	3
Houses which were without proper means of drainage provided with drains discharging to Cesspools	9
Choked Drains and Cesspits cleared	13
Defective Drains repaired or relaid	17
Sinks provided	15

LIGHTING AND VENTILATION.

Windows repaired or renewed or made to open (Number of Houses)	98
Means of through ventilation provided (Number of Houses) ..	13
Houses provided with additional light	19
Food stores lighted and ventilated	19
Houses provided with food stores	13

CLEANLINESS.

Dirty Houses cleaned	1
Accumulation of Refuse removed (Number of Houses) ..	6
Pigs, Fowls, &c., removed from vicinity of dwelling houses and wells	1
Rat infested premises cleared	1

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Privies and Pail Closets converted to Water Closets	12
Privies converted to Pail Closets	15
Additional Water Closets provided	2
Additional Pail Closets provided	4
Pail Closets repaired or renewed	60
Water Closets provided with flushing cisterns	1

WATER SUPPLY.

Houses provided with supply from public mains	453
Schools provided with supply from Public Mains	1
Wells repaired and cleaned out	9
Sources of pollution removed (Number of Houses)	4
Water Services repaired (Number of Houses)	10

ASHPITS.

Ashbins provided	6
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OVERCROWDING.

Overcrowding abated	11
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MISCELLANEOUS.

Floors repaired or renewed (Number of Houses)	77
Doors repaired or renewed (Number of Houses)	41
Internal plastering repaired or renewed (Number of Houses) ..	70
External plastering or boarding repaired or renewed (Number of Houses)	52
Ventilation provided under floors (Number of Houses)	8
Fireplaces repaired or renewed (Number of Houses)	23
Cooking Ranges repaired or renewed	42
Chimneys repaired (Number of Houses)	44
Stairs repaired or renewed (Number of Houses)	32
Stairs provided with handrails	12
Additional rooms provided	6
Wash-houses, coppers, etc., repaired or renewed (Number of Houses)	34
Houses provided with washing accommodation	8
Skirting Renewed	10
Defective external walls repaired or rebuilt (Number of Houses) ..	35
Yard paving provided	9
Yard paving repaired	1
Dangerous condition of outbuildings	1

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Bakehouses refuse removed	1
Bakehouses floors repaired	2
Bakehouses walls repaired	1
Bakehouses cleansed and limewashed	3
Bakehouses ventilation improved	1
Bakehouses ashbins provided	1
Factories provided with water from public mains	1

SLAUGHTER HOUSES

Slaughter Houses provided with water supply from public mains	1
Slaughter Houses cleansed and limewashed	2

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

Cowsheds cleansed and limewashed	78
Cowshed dirty floors cleansed	50
Cowshed ventilation improved	4
Cowshed lighting improved	6
Cowsheds provided with manure channels	3
Cowsheds paving repaired	13
Cowshed walls repaired	7
Cowsheds drains repaired	4
New cowsheds constructed	5
Clean approaches to cowsheds provided	6
Manure removed from vicinity of cowshed	21
Dairy Farms provided with water from public mains	12
Dirty condition of utensils	49
Dirty condition of cows and milkers	24
Dairies cleansed and limewashed	15
New dairies provided	8
Dairies walls or ceilings repaired	3
Dairies floors repaired	6
New coolers provided	3
Sterilizing Outfits provided	10

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

ALBERT HURD,

Sanitary Inspector.

HOUSING STATISTICS.**1.—NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR.**

(i.) By the Local Authority	1
(ii.) By other Local Authorities	0
(iii.) By other bodies or persons	77
	<hr/>
Total	78
	<hr/>

2—INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1960
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	3954
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	240
Ditto. Housing Act (Overcrowding) ..	445
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	2305
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	71
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	290

3—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	269
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4—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

A—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	7
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—	
(a) By Owners	5
(b) By local authority in default of Owners ..	0

B—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	7
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—	
(a) By Owners	4
(b) By local authority in default of Owners ..	0

C—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	20
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	12
(3) Number of houses demolished voluntarily	5

D—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

5—HOUSING ACT, 1936 : OVERCROWDING.

A—(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	48
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	48
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	374
B—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	16
C—(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	12
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ..	91
D—Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	None
E—Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding con- ditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report.	
<i>(Plans for the relief of the small amount of overcrowding are under consideration).</i>	

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

The standard of cleanliness of milk in the District is good, and most of the dairy farmers in the district are accredited producers.

Three are also producers of Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Regular visits are paid to Farms and Dairies to ensure that the standard of cleanliness is maintained, and that the Milk and Dairies Order is complied with. During the last three months of the year, however, visits to farms and dairies were suspended owing to the prevalence of Foot and Mouth Disease in the area.

Fourteen samples of milk were submitted to the laboratory for examination. In addition 115 samples were submitted by officers of the County Council for biological examination. Of these latter, four were positive and two were inconclusive.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Regular visits have been paid to Butchers' Shops, Slaughter-houses and other premises where food is stored or offered for sale. The Sanitary Inspector's Report shows the considerable number of visits paid under this heading.

In consequence of these inspections, unsound meat to the extent of 2,296lbs. was condemned. The exact details, in tabular form, of these inspections, showing the class of animal examined and the particulars of condemnations, are shown in the Sanitary Inspector's Report. None of the figures shown refer to ante-mortem inspection.

ADULTERATION, ETC.

Action under the various Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Acts is taken by officers of the County Council.

CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD

The Counties Laboratory, 91, Queen Victoria Street, is available for this service.

In addition to examinations of food, etc., various clinical examinations are undertaken.

The actual work done for the District is detailed below:—

<i>Specimen.</i>	<i>No. examined.</i>
Diphtheria	39
Sputa	9
General	3
Milk	12
Water	30
Sewage	1
Total	<hr/> 94

NUTRITION.

Dissemination of knowledge is undertaken through the various Child Welfare Centres, under the supervision of the County Council.

Cookery Demonstrations have been held at certain centres monthly throughout the year.

SHELLFISH.

There are no layings or shellfish beds in the District, and the amount of shellfish in the Rural District is small.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Notifiable infectious disease has been of average prevalence during the year, more than half the cases being accounted for by Scarlet Fever, 31 in number, or four more than last year. Three parishes widely separated claimed more than five cases each, namely, West Bergholt seven, Rowhedge six, Tiptree six. The cases were mostly mild in character; in many instances sore throats had occurred in the household amongst other members of the family without being accompanied by a rash.

The nine diphtheria cases all occurred during the first three months of the year, three of them in the Public Assistance Institution. There were two or three serious cases, and these accounted for the two deaths which occurred.

Hospital accommodation is reserved at Colchester Isolation Hospital, and endeavour is made to use it to the best advantage. Selected cases are sent to hospital; where possible, having regard to the type of the case and the circumstances of the home, cases are nursed at home. Non-notifiable cases of infectious disease are at times sent in to hospital.

Prompt use is made of Diphtheria Antitoxin by practitioners in the district; their stock is replaced by the local authority as it is used.

Information regarding non-notifiable disease is obtained for the most part through the schools. For the year under review this was very prevalent. Many parishes suffered from influenza chills during the first two months, and approximately 273 cases were reported among children. The second quarter of the year provided a large number of measles cases, West Bergholt being the most affected parish; 362 cases were brought to notice—fortunately they were for

the most part mild. The number of cases for other disease known to have occurred were Whooping Cough 43, Chicken Pox 45, Mumps 81. No action has been taken to provide active immunisation against Diphtheria or Scarlet Fever.

No use has been made in the district of Measles serum for the prophylaxis or attenuation of the disease.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

The Local Authority has agreed to the notification of blindness or threatened blindness by general practitioners, and this proposal has been submitted to the County Council, who provide the services of an Ophthalmic Specialist.

TUBERCULOSIS.

It has not been necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

Only one death from Tuberculosis was un-notified.

It is considered that the position regarding notification of this disease is satisfactory in the District, and any omission of notification is usually due to misapprehension.

The following table shows the incidence of and mortality from Tuberculosis during the year :—

TABLE SHOWING INCIDENCE OF TUBERCULOSIS IN 1937 AND THE DEATHS
FROM SAME CAUSE.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1 ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
1-5 ..	—	—	2	1	—	—	2	1
5-10 ..	—	—	3	2	—	—	1	1
10-15 ..	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—
15-20 ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25 ..	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
25-35 ..	1	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
35-45 ..	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
45-55 ..	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55-65 ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Over 65 and upward	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Totals ..	7	3	6	9	3	3	4	2

TABLE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES IN 1937.

DISEASE.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.								Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
	Total.	0-1 Year.	1-5 Years.	5-15 Years.	15-25 Years.	25-45 Years.	45-65 Years.	Over 65 Years.		
Scarlet Fever ..	31	—	3	20	6	2	—	—	18	—
Diphtheria ..	9	—	—	3	1	4	1	—	9	1
Pneumonia ..	8	1	—	2	—	3	1	1	—	10
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	3	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Erysipelas ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Total ..	53	1	3	25	9	12	2	1	30	12

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspector of Nuisances.

	Premises. (1)	Number of		
		Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
Factories	9	1	—
(Including Factory Laundries)				
Workshops	54	7	—
(Including Workshop Laundries)				
Workplaces	—	—	—
(Other than Outworkers' premises)				
Total	63	8	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
(1)				(5)
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :*</i>				
Want of cleanliness	3	3	—	—
Want of ventilation	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	5	5	—	—
(insufficient	—	—	—	—
Sanitary accommodation { unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—
{ not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921).				
Total.. ..	9	9	—	—

*Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

